

Thursday Feb 4th

Dearest Mother,

We're off once again - this time to Yokusuke. We had a wonderful time in Honolulu. That place is incredibly beautiful and colorful - and clean! It possesses a serenity that is relaxing, yet doesn't make you "lazy". We went all over the island, visited the famous hotels, etc. - mostly just looked. Ramona had her car and most of the guys on the ship went together and rented several, so there was plenty of transportation. Ramona brought me a beautiful orchid lei and a white one made of flowers that looked like stephanotis, but weren't.

We went to Trader Vic's for dinner Saturday night, to the Moana for the floor show (very good - different) and to the Queen's Surf for dancing. The latter place is "movie-set stuff" - full of atmosphere. To the left

was Diamond Head, to the right,
all the hotels, but just ahead, and
^{you} as ^{you} looked from a palm-covered
balcony, with orchid trees here
and there - was that blue, blue
bay. There was a full moon, and
jillions of stars - Could you ask
for anything prettier? I even
liked the guy I was with! I
stayed at the Nurses Quarters that
night with Ramona and Mary
- had a beautiful room with bath
(- a tub bath at that.) and a view
from the terrace (every room has
one) that was just out of this
world. Then Ramona and I went
back to the Queen's Surf for lunch
and were presented with white
orchid leis (The management
gave them to us because "we're in
the Navy now"). I had that white
dress on that I bought at home
~~room~~ I remember? + white + gold
jewelry. - grey + white shoes that I
got last summer at recess. That dress

was just the thing for me. We drove
around the island (about 35 miles)
to Kala. There, the water was grass
green. We went there for a swimming
party the ship was having - had a
wonderful time there - and I got a
couple of shades darker to boot.
Later in the evening, we went back
to the Moana for their farewell
floor show for the passengers of the
Lucine who were leaving the next
day. - it was very good. We got
back to the ship about 11 PM - tired
but happy and got ready to leave
the next day. - We left to the
strains of Aloha, Auld Lang Syne,
Oleahouma, The Eyes of Texas, etc.
- that's sort of rough. The high
light of leaving comes when the
"postman" comes dashing back
to the gangplank with the last
of the mail that we will get
~~before~~ ^{printed} we dock again. He gets

a big hand needless to say.
This procedure of shoving off is
something. They have to load
the cars on board, get all stray
items hoisted, the booms secured,
get the lines that go out to the
tug boats overboard, and finally,
"All visitors please depart from the
ship" - and there goes our gang-
way - then "The quarter deck will
be moved to the bridge." Prepare to
change location of watches and get
under way" - then we have our
big whistle, the tug boats start
tugging, the band plays Anchors
Aweigh, - the friends wave, and
we wave one more time and
rush over to the other side of the
ship to stand quarters. The tugs
help us back away from the
pier, we swing around and
head out to sea - and we're
off. - We go about our work as

usual after that. Naturally, the Hospital personnel has very little to do now, while the ship's crew are up to their ears in work. When we get to Inchon, the situation will definitely be reversed!

As you can see by the movie schedule I'm sending you, we have good movies every night and it really helps break what would ordinarily be heavy monotony. I have been so sleepy lately that I'm ready to go to bed as soon as the movie is over! Our day starts at 8 A.M. but we have to be up at 7 A.M. Of course, when we open the Hospital, we'll be on duty by 7 A.M. and off at 3 if we're not too busy.

How is everything at home? The laundry still laundering? The taxes still taxing, etc? Has Smitty sent you any money yet? He may not have sold it yet, either. I'd say it may be about the 15th of Feb. before

he could get the loan straightened out. - At any rate, don't worry about it - he's a very nice person and so is his wife.

I've really been worried about Raymond and his eye. I didn't have even a card from anyone - at home - when we got to Pearl Harbor, so I've been anxious about him. Ask Johnnie to drop me a line, will you?

Tell Mother. I need to drop Joe and Jack a note or two. Jack will be in Japan soon, and Joe is staying in the States ^{awhile} ~~some~~. The Essex and Harry went by Pearl Harbor while we were there, but didn't stop! Isn't that a wicked turn of events! He's going to Newport, R.I. for a course in military justice, then back to San Diego, he thinks. It would

have been nice seeing him again.

I've been invited to NYC
by the VIP's on my return and
since I'll probably have about 30
days, I plan to go for about
6 or 7 days after I get home. I
should be able to get a hop out
of Linker going East, don't you
think so?

Well, I must stir around
and get my hair combed, etc.
so that I'll look presentable for
the meeting this afternoon.

Take it easy

Lots of love
Your daughter.